

Text-fig. 1.-Meiosis, microspore mother cell, Drimys insipida. Camera lucida drawing of metaphase I showing 13 bivalents. $\times 2600$.

Text-fig. 2.-Mitosis, tapetal cell, Drimys insipida. Camera lucida drawing of metaphase showing 104 chromosomes $(8 \times 13) . \times 2600$.

Text-fig. 3.-Meiosis, microspore mother cell. Drimys purpurascens. Camera lucida drawing of anaphase I showing 13 chromosomes. $\times 2600$.

Text-fig. 4.-Meiosis, microspore mother cell, Drimys stipitata. Camera lucida drawing of a portion of anaphase II showing 13 chromosomes. $\times 2600$.
number in this group (Pl. i, fig. 1; Text-figs. 1, 3, 4). In the material of D. insipida several polar views of metaphase plates in tapetal cells were encountered, one of which (Pl. i, fig. 2; Text-fig. 2) had exactly 104 chromosomes, a multiple of 13. Permanent slides have been made of material from all species except $D$. lanceolata.

The Winteraceae have long been regarded as a family of distinct significance in any account of the morphology and phylogeny of the Angiosperms. A recent paper by Bailey and Nast (1945) summarizes this viewpoint. The chromosomes have been studied previously in only one species of the family. Whitaker (1933) reported the somatic chromosome number from root tips of Drimys winteri to be $\pm 76$ ( $4 \times 19$ ). He stated that, "because of the large number of chromosomes and their small size, it is difficult to make absolutely certain of the number. However, it is undoubtedly between 72 and 76 , with greater likelihood of the latter figure's being correct." This conclusion seemed to be in agreement with a report by Strasburger (1905) that there were about 36 pairs of chromosomes in this species and also with the base number 19 in Magnolia.


Text-fig. 5.-Diagram of pollen tetrad showing the diameter measured for Table 2.
It is suggested here that the somatic chromosome number in the plants counted by Strasburger and Whitaker may have been 78 , a multiple of 13 . In any case, although the American species should be reinvestigated for exact chromosome number, the presence of polyploidy seems to be well established in that section of Drimys.

Whitaker postulated that the basic chromosome number 19, together with nodal anatomy common to Magnolia, Liriodendron, Cercidiphyllum, Drimys, Trochodendron and Tetracentron, was strong evidence for regarding this list of genera as forming a natural grouping of plants.

Subsequent workers, in intensive reinvestigations in the anatomy and morphology of these genera, have separated Drimys (and the Winteraceae as a whole) from immediate relationship with any of the other genera, thus leaving the Winteraceae as an isolated, relic group of general ranalian affinities (Bailey and Nast, 1945; Nast and Bailey, 1945; Swamy and Bailey, 1949; Canright, 1953). The establishment of 13 as the basic chromosome number in Drimys removes the putative connections founded on chromosome number between the genus and the other genera in Whitaker's list, and concurs with the findings of the recent investigators in this field.

It may be reported here also that during this study it was observed that in the four (Australian) species of Drimys counted, the course of development in the stamens is centrifugal. This development was noted particularly in the meiosis of the microspore mother cells. Studies to show the complete ontogeny of the stamens have not yet been undertaken. The centrifugal development of stamens when it is better understood may prove to be a specialization of considerable significance in the phylogeny of the Angiosperms and its presence in the Winteraceae is of great interest.

Bailey and Nast (1945) and Smith (1945) emphasize the separation of the Old and New World Sections of Drimys in both space and time, and point out that for many

Table 2.
Pollen Tetrad size in the Winteraceap.


